



Montana Public Service Commission
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**PSC TO HOLD MEETING MAY 25 IN MISSOULA
ON NORTHWESTERN ENERGY'S ELECTRICITY SUPPLY PLAN & BANKRUPTCY**

Public Service Commission Chairman Bob Rowe will hold a public meeting in Missoula on Tuesday, May 25, to provide information about NorthWestern Energy's electricity supply plan and to hear public comments on it. Immediately following the meeting on the supply plan, Rowe will conduct an informational meeting on the NorthWestern bankruptcy proceeding to update citizens on the status of the bankruptcy and to answer questions.

The meeting will be at 6 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel Missoula Edgewater in the University of Montana Room, 100 Madison Street.

At the supply plan meeting, Rowe will provide general background about the plan and a brief description of the PSC process for reviewing it. Representatives of NorthWestern Energy will be available to answer questions and provide information, as will representatives from the Montana Consumer Counsel.

According to Rowe, "The PSC's electric portfolio Guidelines were developed through a collaborative, with active participation from many perspectives. As we review NorthWestern's first plan filed under the Guidelines I also want to give citizens every chance to participate." Rowe said, "I'm also looking forward to a lively discussion of the bankruptcy."

NorthWestern is required to procure electricity to meet the needs of its current and future customers and to submit a plan to the PSC indicating how it intends to procure the electricity. The PSC's default supply planning and procurement rules encourage the utility to pursue multiple objectives, including adequate reliable power supplies, an environmentally responsible portfolio of resources, the lowest long-term total cost, stable prices, economically efficient prices and reasonable prices. The PSC is required to review the plan, take public comment, and identify concerns with the plan and ways to remedy them.

Persons interested in reviewing the plan can access it at www.montanaenergyforum.com. This NorthWestern website contains the complete plan, a guide to understanding the plan, a glossary, and a method of providing comments electronically to the company regarding the plan. Persons interested in commenting on the plan electronically may do so directly to NorthWestern at the above site, or may comment to the PSC at 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, MT 59620-2601, or electronically at <http://psc.state.mt.us/consumers/comments>.

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